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[1] MR. WILLIAMS: That's -
[2] THE COURT: The 1994 decision by Judge Giles.
[3] (Laughter.)
[4] MR. MATTIONI: Then, your Honor, I repeat that the
[5] claim right now for injunctive relief is not under CERCLA and
[6] I don't think anybody can say otherwise. That's the fact.
[7] MR. MARTIN: Your Honor, may I address this one
[8] scenario, the RCRA issue, by pointing to the Price case which
[9] is in the handout? I'll just read the language because I
[10] think it addresses exactly what you and Mr. Mattioni have
[11] been talking about.
[12] The Court there says, talking about a subsequent
[13] purchaser: "As owners of the property, the AGA defendants
[14] are, we conclude, contributing to the disposal, i.e., leaking
[15] of waste merely by virtue of their studied indifference to
[16] the hazardous condition that now exists. The idea that
[17] ownership imposes responsibility for hazardous conditions on
[18] one's land is certainly not novel."
[19] And they go on to say: "As sophisticated investors
[20] they had a duty to investigate the actual conditions that
[21] existed on the property or take it as it was. They
[22] deliberately chose the latter course. Moreover, they became
[23] aware in the summer of 1979 that toxic chemicals had been
[24] dumped at the landfill but they have done nothing to abate
[25] the hazardous condition that exists. Under these conditions

[1] A: Approximately five years.
[2] Q: What is your educational background?
[3] A: I have a Bachelor in - Bachelor of Science degree from
[4] Eastern University - Eastern Michigan University in
[5] biochemistry. I have a Doctorate that I earned from
[6] University of Michigan Ann Arbor.
[7] (Pause.)
[8] THE COURT: Sorry, proceed, please.
[9] BY MR. SITHER:
[10] Q: Would you continue with your educational background?
[11] A: Yes, after receiving a Ph.D. in toxicology from U of M, I
[12] went on to become a postdoctoral fellow, a Rutgers Fellow at
[13] the University of Rutgers University. And I had a joint
[14] appointment at Cornell Medical School as an associate
[15] research, guiding some students through their Ph.D. or
[16] Doctoral thesis.
[17] From there I went to University of Colorado Medical
[18] School in the Department of Physiology and spent three years
[19] there as a National Institute of Health Fellow.
[20] Q: Okay. And what is toxicology?
[21] A: It's basically the study of toxic substances on humans
[22] where we perhaps use risk assessments to quantify the risks
[23] or health effects, but it's basically the study of toxic
[24] effects in humans.
[25] Q: How do you use toxicology to evaluate the health threats

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[1] the AGA defendants may be responsible to have stopped the
[2] continued leaking of contaminants from the site."
[3] That's a RCRA 7003 case, your Honor.
[4] THE COURT: Well, it's 12:30, thank you very much.
[5] 1:15.
[6] (Court in recess; 12:31 to 1:22 o'clock p.m.)
[7] THE COURT: Good afternoon. Please be seated.
[8] MR. SITHER: Your Honor, the United States calls Dr.
[9] Richard DeGrandchamp.
[10] DR. RICHARD L. DeGRANDCHAMP, Plaintiff's Witness,
[11] Sworn.
[12] THE COURT CLERK: Please be seated. Please state
[13] your name and spell your last name for the record.
[14] THE WITNESS: My name is Richard DeGrandchamp,
[15] spelled D-e-G-r-a-n-d-c-h-a-m-p.
[16] DIRECT EXAMINATION
[17] BY MR. SITHER:
[18] Q: Good afternoon, Dr. DeGrandchamp. Dr. DeGrandchamp, are
[19] you currently employed?
[20] A: Yes, I am.
[21] Q: And where are you employed?
[22] A: I am the president of Scientia Veritas, a small
[23] consulting firm specializing in toxicology risk assessment in
[24] occupational medicine.
[25] Q: How long have you been employed with this company?

[1] to people?
[2] A: Well, we have a variety of tools that we use. The first,
[3] of course, the best one is a toxicological evaluation where
[4] we may take some blood samples, some hair samples to measure
[5] body burden. The other tool that we can use to quantify
[6] risks at a site, particularly at hazardous waste sites is
[7] risk assessment.
[8] Q: Okay. Do you consider yourself an expert in risk
[9] assessment and toxicology?
[10] A: Yes.
[11] Q: How many risk assessments have you performed?
[12] A: Approximately 300 or so, between 300 and 350 risk
[13] assessments.
[14] Q: Have many of these risk assessments been - involved
[15] sites where there was PCB contamination?
[16] A: Roughly a hundred or so.
[17] Q: Do you have any additional experience with PCB
[18] contamination at sites?
[19] A: Yes. I'm currently developing two guidance documents for
[20] the Navy's Bureau of Medicine, the first relating to
[21] determining background levels of PCBs. There are very
[22] complex mixtures so I developed a new statistical tool using
[23] linear regression for establishing and defining background
[24] levels of PCBs in the environment.
[25] The second guidance document that I'm currently

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[1] writing is a document that actually prepares the Navy or
[2] provides guidance for the Navy on PCB contaminated sites so
[3] that it can transfer those properties currently being used by
[4] the Navy over for civilian use so that we can ensure when the
[5] properties are transferred they're health protective, they're
[6] not going to pose risks. And that deals primarily with
[7] collecting the right kind of data and how you use that data
[8] in human health risk assessment.

[9] Q: Okay. Have you ever testified as an expert at a trial
[10] before?

[11] A: Not a trial like this, no.

[12] MR. SITHER: Your Honor, at this time I'd tender Dr.
[13] Richard DeGrandchamp as an expert in human health toxicology.

[14] MR. MATTIONI: I have no questions at this time,
[15] your Honor.

[16] THE COURT: Would both of you please keep your
[17] voices up, speak a little louder?

[18] BY MR. SITHER:

[19] Q: Dr. DeGrandchamp, do you have an opinion with a
[20] reasonable degree of scientific certainty whether the
[21] hazardous substances present at the Metal Bank site pose any
[22] threat to the health of people who come into contact with
[23] them?

[24] A: Yes, after reviewing many site reports and the data sets
[25] generated at the Metal Bank facility, I've concluded that

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[1] there is a potential threat to human health associated with
[2] primarily two human populations at the Metal Bank facility.
[3] The first being those people that catch fish nearby and
[4] consume them, perhaps their families eat the fish, the second
[5] being the occupational exposure. And that's a potential
[6] future exposure, of course, where that would involve the
[7] property being further developed perhaps with excavation to
[8] put in new buildings or develop the property.

[9] Q: Do you have any -

[10] MR. MATTIONI: If your Honor pleases, I hate to be
[11] obstructionist at the very beginning, but I don't believe
[12] that Dr. DeGrandchamp's two reports ever purported to
[13] represent him as offering an opinion of risk assessment type
[14] as opposed to talking about the risk assessment. And I would
[15] therefore move to strike the testimony because he gave us two
[16] separate reports, both of them after the close of expert
[17] discovery, and this is the first time we hear that he's
[18] giving this kind of opinion.

[19] THE COURT: It's so close to common sense there is
[20] no- no harm if there is some kind of technical discovery
[21] violation. If there were, I'll excuse it.

[22] With respect to risk assessment, you'll have an
[23] opportunity to ask him questions about his credentials. And
[24] with respect to whether certain chemicals can cause harm in
[25] humans, I will hear that testimony. Proceed.

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[1] MR. SITHER: Thank you, your Honor.

[2] BY MR. SITHER:

[3] Q: Dr. DeGrandchamp, do you have any additional opinions you
[4] wish to present here today?

[5] A: Yes, after reviewing the risk assessments that have been
[6] conducted for the Metal Bank property, the contaminants that
[7] have been detected in various environmental media, I've
[8] concluded the risks have been underestimated, due primarily
[9] to a lack of very important toxicological data that have yet
[10] to be collected.

[11] Q: What have you relied on in forming your opinions?

[12] A: I've reviewed many of the site investigations, of course,
[13] I've reviewed the data sets as well as those chemicals which
[14] have been analyzed at the property, identified major data
[15] gaps. I have also relied on the reports, the expert reports
[16] of Dr. Medine and Dr. Diamond, as well as the defendant's
[17] expert report, Dr. Anderson, namely. And also I relied
[18] primarily, to guide this review process, EPA's guidance
[19] that's been specifically developed for PCB contaminated
[20] sites. It was developed in 1996.

[21] Q: If you can take a minute, Dr. DeGrandchamp, the Court has
[22] heard a lot this week about PCB congeners and PCB aroclor
[23] mixtures. Can you review briefly what - how we distinguish
[24] those?

[25] A: Well, toxicologists categorize PCBs. Now, I'm going to

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[1] begin by saying, as Dr. Medine testified, PCBs are very
[2] complex mixtures of congeners, 209 potential congeners in
[3] each mixture, and we define PCBs as very complex mixtures in
[4] which we have two types of chemicals, from a toxicological
[5] perspective, basically dealing with their potency to produce
[6] toxicity.

[7] The first type of PCB congener that we deal with,
[8] particularly with aroclor analysis, are nondioxin-like PCB
[9] congeners. The second category, of course, is the dioxin-
[10] like PCB congeners, which is a small subset of the 209
[11] congeners, roughly 13 congeners, that have a particularly
[12] high toxicity associated with exposure and they produce toxic
[13] effects with minute quantities.

[14] So we basically distinguish two different categories
[15] and evaluate them actually separately in any toxicological
[16] evaluation or risk assessment.

[17] Q: You mentioned dioxin. What is dioxin?

[18] A: Dioxin is a very, at one point, I mean perhaps five, six
[19] years ago was thought to be one of the most toxic substances
[20] known to man. But when we refer to dioxin, the archetypical
[21] or the reference congener that we're actually talking about
[22] because dioxins are congeners as well, they have a slightly
[23] different molecular structure, we're referring to 2,3,7,8-
[24] tetrachloro-dibenzo-dioxin, but we - commonly referred to as
[25] TCDD, affectionately known as dioxin.

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[1] So dioxin has a very unique ability to produce toxic
[2] effects in the body and we use that as a reference chemical
[3] for all PCB dioxin-like chemicals because they behave very
[4] similarly in the body and they're molecularly related to one
[5] another, so they look alike and they act alike in the body in
[6] terms of their mode of action.

[7] Q: So what are adverse health effects of PCBs on people?

[8] A: Well, let me start by giving you an overall sense of the
[9] toxicity of all PCBs. All PCBs or PCB mixtures, very complex
[10] mixtures, aroclors, primarily, can damage the immune system
[11] which, of course, is important in immuno-surveillance. That
[12] is when you develop a tumor, it's typically your immune
[13] system that destroys the tumor and prevents cancer. So it
[14] depresses the immune system by attacking it.

[15] The second general effect, toxic effect of PCBs is
[16] of course on the developing nervous system in children which
[17] can cause cognitive impairment or slight mental retardation.

[18] It also has an insidious effect on the reproductive
[19] cycle of humans. That is it can produce stillborns, babies,
[20] fetuses, miscarriages, and - excuse me - it can interfere
[21] with organ development, liver, kidneys and so forth.

[22] So it has a variety of toxic effects and that's the
[23] overall, we call them systemic toxic effects associated with
[24] PCB exposure. Now that would apply to both dioxin and
[25] nondioxin-like PCBs.

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[1] Q: Do PCBs cause cancer?

[2] A: Yes. And that's our principal focus when we conduct a
[3] toxicological evaluation or a human health risk assessment
[4] and that gives us the basis for the two classifications.

[5] Dioxin-like PCBs, because they act like dioxin, have
[6] a very high or a very great potential for causing tumors or
[7] tumor genesis which can lead to cancer. So we distinguish
[8] the two different types of congeners in these aroclor
[9] mixtures as either having that property of very great
[10] potential for causing tumors and those having a slightly
[11] different but nevertheless significant ability to cause
[12] tumors.

[13] So they all produce tumors but they're different in
[14] their potency based on molecular structure, namely what they
[15] look like sterically from a molecular standpoint and also
[16] from the standpoint of chlorination, the degree of
[17] chlorination for each one of these.

[18] Q: In your experience as a toxicologist do you find that
[19] dioxin-like PCB congeners are found wherever PCB
[20] contamination is found?

[21] A: No. In fact the aroclors having a less number or
[22] percentage of highly chlorinated congeners, we're roughly
[23] talking about mixtures that span the chlorination percentage
[24] or talking about aroclors, we're talking about 1016 through
[25] typically 1060 aroclor - excuse me - 1260.

[1] Of course, as Dr. Medine mentioned, the last two
[2] numbers indicate the weight percentage of chlorine. So the
[3] weight percentage gives us a relative basis of or relative
[4] idea of how potential or the carcinogenic potential of each
[5] different mixture.

[6] So, no, I wouldn't expect the same carcinogenic
[7] potential to be associated with exposure to, say, aroclor
[8] 1016 as I would the congeners up at the higher range of the
[9] chlorination scale.

[10] So I would expect to find those congeners that are
[11] most potent in causing tumors to be present in aroclor 1254
[12] through 1260.

[13] Q: And how do you know this?

[14] A: There are published reference, literature values
[15] basically give you an idea of the relative concentration of
[16] each one of these congeners in the four basic aroclor
[17] mixtures.

[18] Now, keep in mind, those are synthetic and
[19] commercial grade aroclors so once they reach the environment,
[20] they change. But Schwartz in '93 has shown that the aroclors
[21] that we're particularly interested with regard to the
[22] carcinogenic potential are present in aroclors 1254 and 1260,
[23] at very, very high concentrations.

[24] Q: I'm showing you Table 1 from or Exhibit 1 from -
[25] actually I'm showing you, it's Government's Exhibit 642A-001.

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[1] Can you explain what this chart is?

[2] A: Yes, this is the tabulated results from Schwartz's study
[3] in '93 and this is a pretty well regarded study and often
[4] referenced study in PCB risk assessments. But the far left
[5] column presents the specific aroclor. Each aroclor has a
[6] UPAC number, we call it, and it refers to the molecular
[7] structure and the degree of chlorination for that particular
[8] congener. So, for example, PCB 61 is different from PCB 77.

[9] So we have here from Schwartz's paper a list of
[10] those congeners that we're most interested in from a
[11] carcinogenic standpoint. As you move to the right, we go
[12] from aroclor 1242 to aroclor 1260 and this table presents the
[13] concentration of each one of those PCB dioxin-like congeners
[14] that are present in those aroclor mixtures.

[15] For example, let's pick PCB 138 to illustrate the
[16] differences in the concentration. As we move from aroclor
[17] 1242, we know that commercial grade mixtures of 1242, the
[18] concentration is 1,090 parts per million. But as we move far
[19] to the right with aroclor 1260 we can see that the
[20] concentration has dramatic - dramatically increased to
[21] 152,000 parts per million.

[22] So this gives us a relative idea of what we can
[23] expect out in the field when we want to, when we're analyzing
[24] for aroclors, what's behind the aroclor, what's in that
[25] aroclor. Yes, so this column illustrates or presents

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[1] Schwartz's findings for PCB 138 across all the aroclors.
[2] Q: Okay, are any of these aroclor mixtures noted at the top
[3] present at the Metal Bank site?
[4] A: Yes. Aroclor - primarily aroclor 1254 and aroclor 1260
[5] were detected in numerous locations.
[6] Q: And what does that tell you as a toxicologist approaching
[7] the Metal Bank site?
[8] A: Well, the first thing that it tells me is we better shift
[9] from aroclor sampling immediately to congener specific
[10] sampling because we want to capture the amount or
[11] characterize the site with regard to the concentration of
[12] these congeners.
[13] So as soon as I go out to a site I would do, I mean
[14] routinely I go out to a site, conduct a few aroclor samples
[15] because they're cheap, you can expedite the sampling. But
[16] once I've gathered the aroclor information at the site with
[17] regard to the aroclor number or the chlorine content, I
[18] quickly shift over and expect to find some samples that give
[19] me an idea of the congener contamination from these 13
[20] specific congeners.
[21] So this gives me an idea of what I should look for
[22] and to develop my sampling plan after I find it. So aroclor
[23] data are very good for screening a site but they're
[24] insufficient to characterize risk.
[25] Q: Okay. So was there congener data performed at the Metal

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[1] Bank site?
[2] A: Limited. We have a limited amount of congener data but
[3] with recent trip report prepared by Linda Dietz we do have -
[4] excuse me.
[5] Q: Can you explain what - this is Government Exhibit
[6] 642A-002. Can you explain this chart?
[7] A: Yes. Again the far left column presents the different
[8] aroclors by number, the ones I just described, and Linda
[9] Dietz in her trip report presents this table that provides
[10] confirmation that indeed these congeners that we're most
[11] interested in from a toxicological standpoint are present in
[12] the sediment samples near the Metal Bank property. So this
[13] gave us confirmation that indeed they are there. So Schwartz
[14] gave us a reference point of reference to work from and then
[15] this confirmed that indeed these very toxic, dioxin-like PCB
[16] congeners are present as part of the contamination presumably
[17] coming from the Metal Bank property.
[18] Q: So what is the significance of these data from a
[19] toxicological standpoint?
[20] A: The significance is really, it really involves just the
[21] toxicological difference between these particular congeners
[22] and aroclors in general. These, these congeners pose a
[23] significant, a super risk when, especially in environmental
[24] conditions where perhaps equilibrium has been reached where
[25] PCBs are released into the environment and they reach

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[1] equilibrium, that is between the migration from soil to
[2] groundwater. But they've been there for a while and they've
[3] weathered.
[4] So the fact that these are there but we don't have a
[5] great deal of site characterization dealing with these
[6] particular congeners presents a problem for quantifying risk
[7] with any precision or accuracy.
[8] Q: I'm showing you Government Exhibit 719. What does this
[9] table depict?
[10] A: This shows the significance from a toxicological - again, a
[11] toxicological standpoint why it's so very important to
[12] collect congener-specific data rather than aroclor data. On
[13] the far left column we see the toxicity values for 1242 and
[14] 1260, and I should just mention that this table was adapted
[15] directly from the PCB guidance document that I mentioned
[16] earlier.
[17] Q: Excuse me.
[18] (Discussion off the record.)
[19] BY MR. SITHER:
[20] Q: Dr. DeGrandchamp, proceed, continue to explain what this
[21] table depicts.
[22] A: We juxtaposed the toxicity values for aroclors which were
[23] used in the risk assessments that have been conducted thus
[24] far for the Metal Bank facility with those toxicity values
[25] that are associated with the 13 PCB dioxin-like congeners.

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[1] These TEF values represents - represent the
[2] toxicity equivalency factors relative to dioxin itself. As
[3] you recall, I mentioned that dioxin are - dioxin is the
[4] standard, 2,3,7,8 tetrachlor-dibenzo-dioxin has a TEF value
[5] of one because it's the reference material. A TEF value will
[6] give us an indication of how potent these chemicals are
[7] relative to it. So that's - that's the definition of the
[8] TEF value.
[9] And the World Health Organization has developed a
[10] very similar list for the TEFs for - that were developed
[11] independent from EPA. So there's general concurrence about
[12] these TEF values in the toxicological community.
[13] But what's important to point out in this particular
[14] exhibit is that the cancer potency - and again the cancer
[15] potency is the ability of these chemicals to produce cancer -
[16] is much greater than for the dioxin-like PCB congeners as
[17] compared to the aroclors. So if I were conducting a risk
[18] assessment, and because risk is directly proportional to the
[19] inherent toxicity of a chemical, I'm going to get a much
[20] higher risk for, say for example PCB-126 which has a toxicity
[21] potency factor of 15,000 as compared to point four and two
[22] for aroclor mixtures.
[23] So the importance of this, of this slide I think is
[24] obvious with regard to calculated risk, but it's also
[25] important for risk assess- or, excuse me, a toxicologist to

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[1] evaluate this because we need to look at cumulative risk and
[2] overall health effects associated with PCB sites.

[3] And there were some other problems that perhaps we
[4] can get to regarding the aroclor analysis versus congener
[5] analysis.

[6] Q: Dr. Medine testified, I think it was yesterday, that once
[7] PCBs are released into the environment they change over time
[8] as they weather. What effect does weathering have on PCB
[9] toxicity?

[10] A: Well, weathering actually produces a super-concentrated
[11] soup, if you will, of the PCB mixtures for the very reasons
[12] that Dr. Medine went into, the water solubility, the ability
[13] of these lower chlorinated congeners to evaporate. They're
[14] not going to be there that long and also they're not -
[15] they're highly degradable (sic), whereas the more
[16] chlorinated congeners, namely those 13, will stick around for
[17] a long time.

[18] So, what you in effect, on a weight-by-weight, you
[19] know, comparing weight of PCB mixtures, as time goes on the
[20] less toxic congeners simply disappear through vaporization or
[21] they're moved away with precipitation, or they're degraded by
[22] bugs in the soil, what you're left with is a highly-
[23] concentrated dioxin mixture - or, excuse me, a PCB dioxin-
[24] like mixture of these higher chlorinated PCB congeners.

[25] So, to summarize, these environmental mixtures are

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[1] much more toxic than the original mixture.

[2] Q: So does this mean that over time PCB contamination at a
[3] site will typically become more toxic rather than less?

[4] A: Yes. And the - these particular congeners are highly
[5] resistant to degradation. So, once they're in the soil,
[6] they're not going to move very far, they're going to be
[7] tightly, tenaciously bound to soil organic matter, either
[8] sediments or soil, so they're going to stay there for a long
[9] period of time because, the higher the chlorination of these
[10] congeners, the greater the resistance to degradation,
[11] unfortunately for humans.

[12] Q: Are there any other ways in which the fate of PCBs in the
[13] environment or transport of them in the environment affect
[14] their toxicity?

[15] A: Yes. As these chemicals actually move up through
[16] biological systems, as indicated by Dr. Medine, there's a
[17] further concentration of these congener - these particularly
[18] toxic congeners, because humans or biological systems
[19] effectively filter out all the less toxic constituents and
[20] they're eliminated from biological systems, whereas the more
[21] chlorinated congeners, because they're fat soluble, will be
[22] retained in these biological systems. So, each successive
[23] trophic level up, reaching fish perhaps, or the ultimate
[24] animal eats the fish, which is us, you reach a point where
[25] the original mixture may have been increased in terms of its

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[1] potential toxicity by three, fourfold, and that's been shown
[2] in the literature, so that's a well-known bio-accumulation
[3] effect. So, not only are these things bio-accumulated, but
[4] the worst ones are bio-accumulated.

[5] Q: Now, you've been talking about the general toxicity of
[6] PCBs, are some people more susceptible to PCB toxicity than
[7] others?

[8] A: Yes. In the risk assessment process we are supposed to
[9] - it's good scientific practice anyway, but we are supposed
[10] to focus on sensitive populations or individuals who may be
[11] either predisposed or genetically more susceptible to the
[12] toxicity of some of these compounds. The most sensitive
[13] group is, by the nature of the toxicity of these PCBs, the
[14] developing fetus and a newborn baby. Just to give you a
[15] scenario, someone - an angler catches a fish, he goes home,
[16] shares it with his family, she's of childbearing age, she
[17] eats the fish and the PCBs are sequestered in her breast
[18] tissue, because it's an adipose site where these PCBs are
[19] sequestered. While she's pregnant, these PCBs can be leached
[20] out of that slowly, reach the systemic circulation, and the
[21] fetus is exposed in utero, while it's in the mother
[22] developing. At that time is when the organ development can
[23] be attacked in the fetus. You might have a malformed baby or
[24] a stillborn, but if the doses aren't sufficiently high and
[25] the term goes to a pregnancy - excuse me, a successful

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[1] delivery, and if the child is subsequently breast fed, of
[2] course then he's getting a direct exposure from PCBs. This
[3] is exacerbated by a steroid in lactating milk which prevents
[4] the elimination of PCBs from the newborn child, so the PCBs
[5] will remain in the child longer periods of time than they
[6] would if the child was not drinking the mother's breast milk.
[7] And also the liver in a child is not fully formed, it's not
[8] mature, and there's an enzyme that is not fully developed
[9] that will help the child eliminate the PCBs from the body,
[10] the glucuronidase in the liver.

[11] So, the child is predisposed from several different
[12] - for several different aspects. But I would say, far and
[13] away, the child, the fetus or the lactating newborn is the
[14] sensitive population that we have to be concerned about.

[15] Q: What other sensitive populations are there?

[16] A: Well, of course, as recommended in the fish advisory, any
[17] fish advisory I've ever seen, cautions against women of
[18] childbearing age to not eat contaminated fish, whether it's
[19] mercury or whether the contamination. So she would certainly
[20] fall into that category, but it would ultimately affect the
[21] fetus. But there's another group that may not even know that
[22] they're aware of their predisposition to these toxic effects
[23] and that includes anyone who has had their liver function
[24] altered either through alcohol, drinking alcohol, which can
[25] cause liver damage of course, but hepatic viral infections,

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[1] hepatitis C, B, or medications that alter the liver function,
[2] because we ultimately use the liver to remove PCBs from our
[3] body. So, if that's - if the liver function is altered,
[4] then those people would be predisposed.
[5] Q: How long do PCBs remain in the body once they get there?
[6] A: Decades. And, unfortunately, those more chlorinated
[7] congeners remain more than all the others because they're
[8] more fat-soluble, it's a simple physical, chemical property
[9] associated with the chlorination, the degree of chlorination.
[10] So, while we may get rid of the less toxic, the more soluble
[11] types of PCBs, those PCBs that can harm us the most are
[12] retained in the body for perhaps decades. That's why it's
[13] important to conduct a risk assessment even when you only
[14] have a brief exposure to the site to be very careful because,
[15] once these PCBs get into the body, they're not eliminated
[16] very quickly, so you will have a chronic exposure to PCBs
[17] even after you go away from the site. So that is probably
[18] one of the confounding factors of these risk assessments as
[19] well.
[20] Q: Dr. DeGrandchamp, you stated that you have an opinion
[21] that the previous risk assessments have underestimated the
[22] threat to human health from contamination at the Metal Bank
[23] site, what is the basis for this opinion?
[24] A: Well, I based that opinion primarily on the lack of data
[25] that we have currently to use in a quantifiable manner to

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[1] estimate the health hazards. The first omission, if you
[2] will, is - was described by Dr. Medine yesterday. Overall,
[3] the PCBs have been underestimated at the Metal Bank facility,
[4] primarily because of the Aroclor analysis that was performed
[5] to measure the amount of PCBs in samples. As he showed in
[6] his chromatogram - chromatograms, I think that's plural, he
[7] showed an example where the PCBs were indeed there in that
[8] sample, but they were reported as nondetects, and that goes
[9] to this weathering issue. Once the characteristic peaks are
[10] missing from the original commercial Aroclor that's released,
[11] you can no longer identify it, and if you're only asking for the
[12] Aroclor analysis, if that Aroclor is not there, it's going to
[13] be reported as nondetect most often.
[14] Q: I'm showing you a Table 432, which is from the remedial
[15] investigation, which is entered into evidence at Government
[16] Exhibit 494, can you explain what this table portrays?
[17] A: Yes, this is just a simple example to illustrate this
[18] concept. This is from the RI that I happened to notice as I
[19] was going through the biological data for this site and we're
[20] looking at the PCB concentrations for corbicula, the clam,
[21] where there were parallel analyses conducted on each sample.
[22] The clams were collected at Mud Flat Area 5 through Mud Flat
[23] Area 11. And what is important here is to notice that when
[24] the Aroclor analysis was detected - or, excuse me, when the
[25] Aroclor analysis was conducted on these samples, we have

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[1] reported here nondetects, ND represents nondetect in these
[2] samples. So, here we have a case where if I only saw that
[3] particular row in the data summary I would presume there were
[4] no PCBs in these clams, therefore no risk. However, when you
[5] look at the parallel analysis conducted for the congeners -
[6] and, again, that's what we should be going after now that we
[7] know that Aroclor 1260 is present at the site, indeed we do
[8] have congeners present in the same samples.
[9] And I'd just like to point out one other thing about
[10] this data - of course, now this is an inference from the
[11] data, but because we know the more chlorinated PCBs are
[12] accumulated, we call it bio-accumulation, in biological
[13] systems, it's likely that those congener results represent
[14] the worst or the most toxic PCB congener at the site simply
[15] because they're retained in biological tissues, just based on
[16] the virtue of their physical chemical properties.
[17] So, I think the two - you asked me about the
[18] underestimation of risks, I think this is a clear case where
[19] we would have in the risk assessment, if we just used the
[20] Aroclor data, we would be underestimating risk. So,
[21] fortunately, in this case there was some congener data that
[22] were available.
[23] Q: Are there any other ways in which human health risks have
[24] been underestimated at the site?
[25] A: Yes. As Dr. Medine pointed out yesterday, in reading the

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[1] chromatograms 1268, Aroclor 1268, was reported at the site in
[2] terms of the chromatograms, he read - I think he showed the
[3] peak, indicating 1268 was present in samples, but it was
[4] never reported and it certainly wasn't used in the risk
[5] assessments to estimate risk.
[6] Now, that has two implications, the first being
[7] total PCBs have been underestimated, just the mass of PCBs
[8] have been underestimated, and the second deficiency, if you
[9] will, is that because Aroclor 1268 likely has a greater
[10] inherent toxicity than Aroclor 1260, because we're dealing
[11] with 60 percent chlorinated congeners versus 68 percent by
[12] weight, it's likely that the Aroclor 1260 presents a greater
[13] toxicity for the exposure scenarios that were envisioned in
[14] the risk assessment.
[15] So, the risk assessments that I saw did not use any
[16] Aroclor 1268, primarily because it wasn't reported in the RI
[17] data summaries.
[18] Q: Are there any other ways in which risks have been
[19] underestimated by previous risk assessments?
[20] A: I think the greater source of underestimation goes back
[21] to my earlier comments about the PCB dioxin-like congeners
[22] not being specifically analyzed. If you don't analyze for
[23] those PCB dioxin-like congeners, due to their - their
[24] significant inherent toxicity, you're just simply not going
[25] to capture all the risks out there. And I juxtapose the

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[1] cancer potency factors for that subgroup compared to the
[2] toxicity values that were used in the risk assessment for the
[3] Aroclors and there's a significant difference. What that
[4] means is you can have a very small amount of the dioxin-like
[5] PCB congeners at a site and, even if it's a minute amount, it
[6] can still pose a significant risk.
[7] Q: Have the risks from dioxins themselves been assessed by
[8] previous risk assessments?
[9] A: Yes, and that's been not an oversight on anyone's part,
[10] except for the samplers, but there's just limited data for
[11] dioxins and furans, which - when you typically conduct a
[12] risk assessment you look at the operational history of the
[13] site and when typically I see a PCB site and I know there's
[14] been combustion, whether or not they were burning PCBs, you
[15] can get contamination of whatever you burn just by virtue of
[16] it being at the site, I would have requested some dioxin and
[17] furan samples.
[18] Now, of course, dioxin has the greatest toxicity of
[19] this whole class. And we have a few samples that indicate
[20] the presence of dioxin and furans, and that was reported in
[21] the RI, but there's insufficient data right now to
[22] characterize the risk. So, it wasn't really a deficiency in
[23] the risk assessment and I don't think the site has been well
[24] characterized with regard to those, those compounds.
[25] Q: Now, did you come to your opinion by performing a human

[1] insignificant. So, compared to standard EPA and ATSDR, the
[2] Agency of Toxic Substance Registry, they are there above de
[3] minimus risk levels; I can't quantify how much more they are
[4] there above de minimus risk levels, but that simple
[5] comparison convinced me that they were - they may pose a
[6] risk or a health threat.
[7] Q: Didn't the defendants' expert, Dr. Anderson, perform a
[8] risk assessment and quantify the risks?
[9] A: Yes.
[10] Q: Okay. And do you - why do you - do you disagree with
[11] her conclusions?
[12] A: Yes, I do. Not casting any aspersions on Dr. Anderson's
[13] report, but the data simply, once again, aren't there. She
[14] has not calculated the risks to human health posed by these
[15] dioxin-like PCB congeners for the very reasons I mentioned
[16] regarding the lack of data base - or the lack of data in the
[17] date set that she used for the risk assessment, there is no
[18] dioxin-like risk calculated, even though now we know dioxins
[19] and furans are present at the site, there's no PCB dioxin-
[20] like risk calculated. Moreover, she didn't use the protocol
[21] or the paradigm that has been developed specifically for PCB-
[22] contaminated sites, namely the 1996 U.S. EPA guidance that
[23] provides very detailed steps to take in calculating risk, so
[24] that at the end you've got a tenable risk assessment that's
[25] defensible. She used a different protocol, a slightly

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[1] health risk assessment?
[2] A: No, no. Typically, when I need to take a risk assessment
[3] at a site, I'm trying to quantify risk -
[4] THE COURT: Hold it just a minute. He said no.
[5] MR. SITHER: Okay.
[6] BY MR. SITHER:
[7] Q: Can you explain why you didn't perform a risk assessment?
[8] A: Yes. I didn't perform a risk assessment because I think
[9] it would have - owing to the large data gap - data gaps
[10] that I see in both the analyses that were performed and the
[11] gaps in site characterization, with regard to now the most
[12] toxic constituents - certainly the nature and extent can be
[13] evaluated in terms of where these contaminants are and where
[14] they're moving, but to perform a risk assessment with any
[15] precision or accuracy I want to reduce the uncertainty in the
[16] risk assessment to the greatest extent possible so that it
[17] has some value.
[18] So, I didn't perform a risk assessment because
[19] ultimately I concluded that the data simply weren't there,
[20] but there were indications, primarily with the latest data
[21] set that Linda Dietz collected or generated for the site back
[22] in June, 2002, that these toxic chemicals are indeed there,
[23] but I don't know the extent, I don't know the contamination.
[24] What I can say is that these levels are above de minimus risk
[25] levels, de minimus meaning in the scientific community

[1] different protocol, and in addition it didn't follow the
[2] recommendations that were recently issued by the National
[3] Research Council where Aroclor analysis is strongly
[4] discouraged at PCB-contaminated sites for the various reasons
[5] that I've mentioned here.
[6] So, she didn't follow the paradigm - that's not to
[7] say that you have to get the blessing from the agency that
[8] you're working for to conduct a risk assessment, but at this
[9] point I don't think the approach she has used is appropriate,
[10] and I think the data set that she used is insufficient and
[11] doesn't characterize the site, so, correspondingly, it
[12] doesn't characterize the risk at the site.
[13] Q: Okay. You've talked about your opinion, the basis of
[14] your opinion that the risk at the site had been
[15] underestimated, what is the basis for your opinion that the
[16] site poses a potential threat to the health of people who,
[17] say, eat fish caught near the site?
[18] A: For risk to exist, impose a risk to those populations who
[19] live nearby, you need basically two things: You need the
[20] chemical to be there in sufficiently high quantity, that is,
[21] the concentration has to be sufficiently high, the chemical
[22] has to pose a risk due to its inherent toxicity, but you also
[23] need that second component, you need people to be exposed.
[24] If chemicals are there sitting in the woods and no one is
[25] coming in contact with them, you can't come up with a

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[1] plausible or reasonable risk estimate simply because no one
[2] is going to be exposed. So, you need the concentration and
[3] you need the exposure.

[4] Now, in evaluating the data sets that have been
[5] generated at the Metal Bank site, I was convinced that
[6] they're sufficiently high and those chemicals that pose a
[7] high toxicity are there at concentrations that pose risks if
[8] someone comes in contact. So, it was important for me to
[9] actually go out and make a site visit to confirm my belief
[10] that exposures could - were plausible or were actually
[11] currently occurring.

[12] In a risk assessment, we are supposed to conduct a
[13] risk assessment under both current exposure conditions and
[14] future conditions, we're supposed to anticipate through land
[15] use analyses, study of zoning records, what types of
[16] exposures can occur in the future, assuming reasonable
[17] regional conditions, economic development, if it's a very
[18] valuable piece of land we can expect this type of exposure.
[19] So, I went out to the site to convince myself that someone is
[20] going to come in contact somehow with these contaminants.

[21] Q: And did you see evidence that people would come into
[22] contact with these contaminants?

[23] A: Yes. We had the opportunity to go out with the Fish and
[24] Boat Commission to view the site from the river side and on
[25] our way, serendipitously, we probably traveled down about a

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[1] mile so, and we were probably approximately a mile from the
[2] Metal Bank property, and we came upon two fishermen who had
[3] just landed a ten-pound carp. So, we got out of the boat -
[4] I wanted just to have an informal conversation with these
[5] fishermen, and I have to tell you this, this was
[6] serendipitous because I've been out on 50, 60, 70 site visits
[7] - typically it's not necessary for me to make a site visit
[8] at a hazardous waste site, because I can usually predict from
[9] the confines of my office what's going to happen there or
[10] what is happening, but I have been out to site visits before,
[11] this is the first time I've ever seen anyone land a fish, so
[12] I wanted to get out and talk to them.

[13] MR. MATTIONI: Objection, your Honor. He was not at
[14] the site by his own admission, how he can say he was, I don't
[15] know.

[16] THE COURT: Overruled. So, what fish story was
[17] given?

[18] (Laughter.)

[19] THE WITNESS: It was a big one. I walked out to
[20] these two gentlemen and they just landed - we didn't weigh
[21] it, but it looked like a ten-pound fish. And I asked the one
[22] guy who actually caught it if - how often he fished there,
[23] so I was trying to gather some frequency exposure
[24] information.

[25] THE COURT: Fish where? Were you at this point a

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[1] mile downriver or upriver from this site?

[2] THE WITNESS: Downriver. We were coming towards the
[3] site, it was approximately about a mile away from the site.
[4] I just wanted to get a general idea of the fishing habits and
[5] activities, not necessarily associated with Metal Bank, but I
[6] wanted to know essentially if they ate these fish.

[7] BY MR. SITHER:

[8] Q: What kind of fish was it, Dr. DeGrandchamp?

[9] A: It was a carp, it was a big carp. I -

[10] THE COURT: Ten pounds?

[11] THE WITNESS: Ten pounds.

[12] (Laughter.)

[13] THE WITNESS: Well, I don't know, is that - I don't
[14] know if that's a big fish in this area, where I come from
[15] it's a big fish.

[16] BY MR. SITHER:

[17] Q: What were these fishermen going to do with this carp?

[18] MR. MATTIONI: Objection.

[19] THE COURT: What were you told? Overruled.

[20] THE WITNESS: I was told by the one fisherman that
[21] he did not eat fish, he just enjoyed fishing, getting away,
[22] while the other gentleman was holding up the fish proudly,
[23] telling me that he was going to go home and eat it. So, I
[24] asked him if he shared it with his family, if he had a
[25] family. I didn't want to intrude too much, but I thought it

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[1] was important for me, first of all, to see if that sensitive
[2] population that I just discussed was going to be exposed, I
[3] mean, that was my - that was my real interest. So, I asked
[4] him and he said, yes, I - my children don't like it, but my
[5] wife likes to eat carp. So, I asked him if he - how he
[6] prepared it. He said, I'm just going to cut off the head and
[7] eat it, bread it and eat it. And I asked him if he was going
[8] to trim it, you know, eat the fillets, and he kind of laughed
[9] at me. And that was important from an exposure standpoint
[10] because, even according to the advisories that are attached
[11] to their licenses, they're instructed to cut away the fat on
[12] the underside of the fish which contains the PCBs, that's
[13] where the PCBs accumulate, but he proceeded to tell me he was
[14] going to eat the fish pretty much in toto. So, that was
[15] interesting. And I don't know how old his wife was and I
[16] didn't feel like giving him any professional advice at that
[17] point about it.

[18] But that gave me two valuable pieces of information
[19] to complete this exposure assessment that I was doing
[20] informally, conducting informally: First, people are not
[21] observing those fish advisories -

[22] BY MR. SITHER:

[23] Q: And why aren't they observing the fish advisories?

[24] A: Well, because they're eating the fish. He gave me the
[25] impression he was going to eat that whole fish within a

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[1] couple days and the fish advisories recommends a half a pound
[2] a month. The second piece of information that's very
[3] important from a toxicological standpoint is he was going to
[4] eat the fat, he wasn't going to trim the fat away, so
[5] apparently he didn't read the fish advisory very closely.

[6] Just to finish this fish story, if I can, we just
[7] traveled down a bit further and talked to two more fishermen
[8] who told us indeed they were having a great time out fishing,
[9] but they weren't going to eat the fish. But then they said,
[10] as we were moving away, a lot of people eat this fish. They
[11] come down over the weekend and they're typically of the lower
[12] social economic strata, unfortunately, so that may be a
[13] particularly sensitive population out there.

[14] But what I concluded from my site visit was that
[15] indeed this exposure pathway that I presumed in the confines
[16] of my office were indeed complete and that's what we're
[17] looking for in a risk assessment, so that was very important.
[18] So that was a piece of information I used to base my decision
[19] - or my opinion on. And the second piece of information I
[20] used was I had an opportunity to drive around with Linda
[21] Dietz, who was kind enough to drive me around the
[22] neighborhood, because that's the other thing you want to look
[23] for at a site like this to see generally if there are any
[24] developmental pressures to develop the site, if they're -
[25] how expensive the property is, who lives around that region.

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[1] Q: Why is this relevant?

[2] A: It's according to EPA guidance actually. We're supposed
[3] to conduct a future land analysis according to RAGS, Risk
[4] Assessment Guidance for Superfund, affectionately known as
[5] RAGS. But the guidance instructs us to evaluate future
[6] exposures at the site by conducting either a formal or
[7] informal future land use analysis. Now, of course I didn't
[8] have time to conduct an exhaustive analysis for future site
[9] conditions, but I learned through our drive-around and what
[10] Linda Dietz could inform me of the developmental pressures
[11] around there that this property could become valuable. It's
[12] only interesting from the exposure standpoint for this
[13] following reason: If development occurs out there, we are
[14] supposed to take into account the type of exposures that
[15] could occur either during construction, redevelopment, or
[16] after construction is completed. I'm presuming, based on my
[17] expert opinion, that development will occur and, if that
[18] occurs, there's likely to be some disturbance in the soil,
[19] excavation for footings, foundation walls. And once you
[20] expose that soil, the PCB-contaminated soil, you have one of
[21] two options that I can see: If you excavate down to the
[22] level where the PCBs are currently protected from exposure
[23] and bring them to the surface, that soil could be used for
[24] backfill against the foundation of these new buildings -

[25] Q: And why is that significant?

[1] A: Well, because then there's a direct ex - you're bringing
[2] the PCBs to the surface now and you have direct exposure
[3] potential for those future workers on the site who may be at
[4] the site eight hours a day. So, right now there is no - I
[5] have to conclude there is no current exposures, but if the
[6] land is developed in the future, even if there are deed
[7] restrictions, remember these PCBs are - they're going to
[8] resist degradation out there for a long period of time,
[9] they're going to be out there for decades. So that is a
[10] plausible future exposure pathway, but I have to caveat that
[11] with it's a potential, it doesn't exist currently.

[12] So that's what I concluded from my site visit, so I
[13] think I gained a lot of valuable information.

[14] Q: So, are the opinions you're expressing here today
[15] expressed with a reasonable degree of scientific certainty?

[16] A: Yes.

[17] MR. SITHER: No further questions, your Honor.

[18] (Pause.)

[19] MR. SITHER: I'm sorry, one moment. Your Honor, may
[20] I offer these exhibits into evidence that we used?

[21] MR. MATTIONI: There's no objection. You can read
[22] the numbers, I suppose.

[23] MR. SITHER: Okay. Exhibit 642A-001, 642A-002,
[24] 642A-003, 719, and that's it.

[25] THE COURT: They're admitted.

[1] (Government's Exhibit Numbers 642A-001 through 642A-
[2] 003 and 719 received in evidence.)

[3] THE COURT: Are you ready to proceed, Mr. Mattioni?

[4] MR. MATTIONI: I'd like to have about five minutes,
[5] if I can, your Honor.

[6] THE COURT: Five minutes. You're free to step down,
[7] sir, if you choose.

[8] (Court in recess; 2:18 to 2:29 o'clock p.m.)

[9] THE COURT: Please be seated.

[10] Mr. Mattioni, you may proceed, sir.

[11] MR. MATTIONI: Thank you, your Honor.

[12] (Pause.)

[13] CROSS-EXAMINATION

[14] BY MR. MATTIONI:

[15] Q: Dr. DeGrandchamp, from what you've just said about the
[16] lack of data sufficient to do an adequate quantitative risk
[17] assessment, human health risk assessment, does that mean that
[18] whatever risk assessments have been done in the past are
[19] inadequate?

[20] THE COURT: Inadequate for what purpose?

[21] MR. MATTIONI: For quantifying human health risk.

[22] THE WITNESS: I'd label them interim. Based on the
[23] available data, they're probably fairly accurate, but based
[24] on the likelihood of the presence of more toxic chemicals
[25] that have been ignored thus far, I would say they don't

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[1] characterize the true risks associated with the site.

[2] **BY MR. MATTIONI:**

[3] **Q:** Now, is it always true that if you do a congener analysis
[4] that levels of dioxin-like PCBs are going to be higher rather
[5] than lower?

[6] **A:** Relative to what, higher -

[7] **Q:** Relative to the Aroclor analysis that you're saying is
[8] inadequate here?

[9] **A:** Well, first, I think the Aroclor analysis is inadequate
[10] in itself, we're getting nondetects when PCBs truly exist in
[11] those samples. So, the Aroclor analysis is underestimating
[12] the risk because we're concluding there is no contamination
[13] when there truly is in a particular location. But, yes,
[14] based on my experience, when you introduce congener-specific
[15] analysis into the site characterization you do have higher
[16] risk and it does - it doesn't take much.

[17] **Q:** Of course, up until very recently, and in fact maybe even
[18] continuing today, isn't it a fact that most if not all risk
[19] assessments have been based on an Aroclor analysis?

[20] **A:** Well, the science of risk assessment evolves like any
[21] other science, but since 1996 EPA has a stated position that
[22] Aroclors cannot - Aroclor data cannot precisely estimate
[23] risk or relying on Aroclor data, in fact their 1996 guidance
[24] strongly suggests or discourages one from using Aroclor data
[25] because the congeners within the Aroclor mixture change so

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[1] much through weathering that the original congener mixture is
[2] no longer recognizable.

[3] **Q:** Dr. DeGrandchamp, my question really was - and let me
[4] state it again - isn't it a fact that even beyond 1996 and
[5] including up to today most human health risk assessments are
[6] based on EPA guidance which does not mandate or require
[7] congener analyses but instead does the risk assessment on the
[8] basis of Aroclor analysis?

[9] **A:** I think there are two questions there. First, are most
[10] risk assessments conducted with Aroclor?

[11] **Q:** Well, answer that.

[12] **A:** Yes. I would say there are a fair amount that do conduct
[13] - that are conducted based on Aroclor data, yes.

[14] **Q:** Isn't that the bulk of the risk assessments that are
[15] currently being done using Aroclor analyses and not congener
[16] analyses?

[17] **A:** Not in my experience and that's why I'm actually writing
[18] the guidance for the Bureau of Medicine, so that risk
[19] assessments can be performed better. As I mentioned, the
[20] science is evolving, we have analytical techniques now that
[21] were not available five years ago and now we can conduct
[22] congener analysis with the precision and accuracy that's
[23] needed with the type of risk assessments that are conducted.
[24] But, yes, historically I would agree, Aroclor analyses were
[25] conducted to perform human health risk assessments.

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[1] **Q:** I guess you've said they're routinely - were routinely
[2] done on an Aroclor-analysis basis and does that mean now that
[3] the EPA is going to have to go back and reopen every
[4] Superfund site involving PCBs to do a whole new risk
[5] assessment on a congener-analysis basis?

[6] **THE COURT:** For what purpose?

[7] **MR. MATTIONI:** To do a risk assessment, to find out
[8] if they were wrong.

[9] **THE COURT:** Well, my understanding of the testimony
[10] is that it's his opinion that the risk using the Aroclor
[11] approach shows that the site is bad and if you use a congener
[12] analysis it will likely show that it's much worse than had
[13] been previously thought, am I right?

[14] **THE WITNESS:** Yes, that's correct.

[15] **THE COURT:** So, when I say for what purpose, is it
[16] for the purpose of assessing - determining liability,
[17] whether there's a substantial risk, or is it for the purpose
[18] of remediation? That's the thrust of my question. So,
[19] rephrase.

[20] **BY MR. MATTIONI:**

[21] **Q:** Is it your opinion that the assessment of risk, in this
[22] case by - well, by EPA, let's say, is adequate to determine
[23] what should be done at the site?

[24] **A:** I'm not qualified as a risk manager, I'm a toxicologist,
[25] so decisions about remediation at heart are about protecting

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[1] the public, but -

[2] **Q:** But you're not qualified, you said?

[3] **A:** Not as a risk manager.

[4] **Q:** Thank you. Part of what you said, I guess, is - if I
[5] understood or followed you correctly, part of your belief
[6] that this Dr. Anderson's risk assessment was inadequate was
[7] because of this finding that there was Aroclor 1268 in some
[8] of the samples that was not analyzed separately?

[9] **A:** Is that a question?

[10] **Q:** Is that correct?

[11] **A:** Could you repeat the question?

[12] **Q:** Did I understand you correctly in faulting Dr. Anderson's
[13] risk assessment because some of the Aroclors, Aroclor 1268,
[14] that you say were found were not reported?

[15] **A:** I'm not condemning her report, she used the available
[16] data, and she used a very specific data set, which was
[17] another flaw that I didn't mention, but she used the most
[18] recent data set to characterize risks. According to EPA
[19] guidance and good standard risk assessment practice, you
[20] calculate the lifetime risk from the point at which those
[21] uncontrolled releases were released in the environment, not
[22] at some arbitrary time where you would select a specific data
[23] set that's the most recent data set simply because it's the
[24] best data set.

[25] So, I would say I don't think she intentionally

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[1] overlooked that data, but it was never reported in the RI
[2] report in the data summary. So, I don't think it was an
[3] intentional omission on her part but, because it wasn't
[4] incorporated into a risk assessment, yes, I believe that the
[5] risks were underestimated.
[6] Q: Are you assuming then that Aroclor 1268, because it has a
[7] higher percent chlorine by weight, necessarily has more
[8] dioxin-like congeners than, let's say, 1260 or some other
[9] Aroclor?
[10] A: That's my suspicion, yes.
[11] Q: Have you done any research on that issue?
[12] A: Yes - well, I have found little in the scientific
[13] literature -
[14] Q: Did you find anything?
[15] A: No, except -
[16] Q: Just -
[17] A: I'm sorry, except to state that the general tendency in
[18] all the peer-review publications that I've read that as the
[19] chlorine content is higher, with few exceptions, the general
[20] tendency is for the toxicity of those to increase. But, no,
[21] I did not find any specific literature references to Aroclor
[22] 1268.
[23] MR. MATTIONI: May I approach the witness, your
[24] Honor, and hand him an exhibit? It will be Defendants'
[25] Exhibit 1107.

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[1] (Pause.)
[2] BY MR. MATTIONI:
[3] Q: Dr. DeGrandchamp, are you familiar with an Irving Sax and
[4] his publication, "Dangerous Properties of Industrial
[5] Materials"?
[6] A: Yes, in graduate school.
[7] Q: And -
[8] A: Not since that time though.
[9] Q: Pardon me?
[10] A: I haven't looked at this since that time, no.
[11] Q: Did you actually find any reference to Aroclor 1268 and
[12] its -
[13] THE COURT: Well, let's find out -
[14] BY MR. MATTIONI:
[15] Q: - congener analyses?
[16] MR. MATTIONI: I'm sorry, your Honor, I apologize.
[17] THE COURT: Well, let's find out if he recognizes
[18] this document as an authoritative publication.
[19] BY MR. MATTIONI:
[20] Q: Dr. DeGrandchamp, do you recognize this - I've only
[21] given you a couple of pages of it, but Irving Sax's Fifth
[22] Edition of the "Dangerous Properties of Industrial
[23] Materials"?
[24] A: Yes.
[25] Q: Is that a standard text in the - in your field?

[1] A: It's a good reference document for acute exposure to
[2] chemicals.
[3] THE COURT: Are you making a distinction between
[4] acute and chronic?
[5] THE WITNESS: I can only speak, your Honor, in the
[6] context that I have used this document to gather information
[7] like lethal concentrations, those acute exposures that can
[8] occur. So, I've only used it in one context, so - but I
[9] know it's authoritative in that context.
[10] BY MR. MATTIONI:
[11] Q: Could you turn to - I guess it's in the copy I provided
[12] you, Dr. DeGrandchamp, it will be Page 484.
[13] A: Mm-hmm.
[14] Q: Does Sax set forth on that page information concerning
[15] chlorinated diphenyl Aroclor 1268?
[16] A: Yes, it does.
[17] Q: And does he also include in that same document a number
[18] of other Aroclors?
[19] A: Yes.
[20] Q: Starting, at the top of that page at least, from 1232
[21] down to 1268 and there's a few more beyond that?
[22] A: Yes.
[23] Q: How do you read this listing, for example, when it says,
[24] "Aroclor 1260, acute toxic data, oral LD-50," in parentheses,
[25] "(rat) equals 1315 milligrams per kilogram," does that - can

[1] you tell us what that means?
[2] A: Yes. The oral LD-50 is the dose on a probit scale that
[3] causes 50 percent of the rat population under study to die,
[4] that's the acute toxic data. That refers to a 24-hour
[5] exposure unrelated to cancer, the topic or the point of the
[6] risk assessments, but according to this table it lists the
[7] acute toxic data, of which we don't use in a risk assessment,
[8] quite frankly, but -
[9] Q: I understand, I'm just -
[10] A: Yes, yes, I see that.
[11] Q: But that - it lists 1300 - 1,350 milligrams per
[12] kilogram as the acute toxic data oral LD-50 for a rat?
[13] A: Yes.
[14] Q: If you drop down to 1268, that lists acute toxic data,
[15] "oral LD-50 (rat)," as equal to 10,900 milligrams per
[16] kilogram?
[17] A: That's correct.
[18] Q: At least for measure of acute toxicity, does that suggest
[19] that Aroclor 1268 is less toxic than Aroclor 1260, at least
[20] for the LD-50?
[21] A: No.
[22] MR. SITHER: Objection.
[23] THE COURT: Overruled. Explain.
[24] MR. SITHER: Your Honor -
[25] THE COURT: No, the witness explain. The answer was

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[1] no, explain your answer.
[2] **THE WITNESS:** No, it - it refers to just the
[3] opposite. From this table, it takes more Aroclor 1260 to
[4] produce a toxic dose than it does 1268.
[5] **BY MR. MATTIONI:**
[6] **Q:** In other words -
[7] **A:** The lower the toxic dose - the lower the toxic dose, the
[8] more potent the chemical.
[9] **Q:** Correct.
[10] **A:** Yeah. Was I comparing the wrong one, 1260 -
[11] **Q:** No - for chlorinated diphenyl Aroclor 1260, the LD-50 is
[12] 1,315 milligrams per kilogram.
[13] **A:** My mistake, I was reading 1262. I'm sorry, yes.
[14] **Q:** And -
[15] **MR. SITHER:** Objection. Your Honor, I notice from
[16] the date of this treatise, it's on the second page, it's
[17] copyright 1979 and I'm wondering if Mr. Mattioni has a more
[18] recent version of this.
[19] **THE COURT:** Well...
[20] **MR. SITHER:** I don't know if it's proper to cross-
[21] examine with an outdated treatise, if there's anything -
[22] **MR. MATTIONI:** I'm not sure that it's an outdated
[23] treatise, your Honor.
[24] **THE COURT:** Well, let's - well, you're not sure it
[25] is.

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[1] **MR. MATTIONI:** Well, if your Honor -
[2] **THE COURT:** Well, whatever it is, I'm going to
[3] permit the witness to continue to help me understand the
[4] equation. Let's go back to 1260.
[5] **THE WITNESS:** Yes.
[6] **THE COURT:** Explain - I know what acute means, that
[7] means to kill off the animal.
[8] **THE WITNESS:** Yes.
[9] **THE COURT:** So, is that dosage of 1315 milligrams
[10] per kilogram that it would take to kill off 50 percent of the
[11] rat population in the study?
[12] **THE WITNESS:** Precisely.
[13] **THE COURT:** And that's by oral ingestion?
[14] **THE WITNESS:** Yes.
[15] **THE COURT:** And then dermal in rabbits is what?
[16] **THE WITNESS:** You typically shave the animal's back
[17] and apply this - a topical solution to the animal.
[18] **THE COURT:** At 2,000 milligrams?
[19] **THE WITNESS:** Correct. That's body weight, not our
[20] typical terms of concentration in environmental media, but,
[21] yes, at that concentration.
[22] **THE COURT:** What is the legend in the two lines
[23] below mean, THR equals MOD, do you know what that means?
[24] **THE WITNESS:** Probably therapy equals... you know,
[25] in this particular case... no, I don't. It gives different

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[1] references here for those two, but I don't know what those
[2] particular acronyms refer to in this.
[3] **THE COURT:** Now, Mr. Mattioni's question was whether
[4] or not there was a suggestion of something, I'm directly you
[5] to answer only if you have an opinion to a reasonable degree
[6] of medical certainty as to whether you know that - whether
[7] you have an opinion to a reasonable degree of medical
[8] certainty of the significance of the 1315 to 1260 and 11,300
[9] for 1262, do you know?
[10] **THE WITNESS:** Yes.
[11] **THE COURT:** What is your opinion?
[12] **THE WITNESS:** My opinion is that 1260 is acutely
[13] more toxic than 1268, the acute toxicity, the relative acute
[14] toxicity between those two Aroclor mixtures, in that
[15] particular comparison, yes.
[16] If I could elaborate?
[17] **THE COURT:** You may.
[18] **THE WITNESS:** Okay. This is irrelevant to a human
[19] health risk assessment because this pertains to chemicals
[20] causing death within 24 hours of the dose being given. This
[21] has no relevance to cancer formation or tumor formation and
[22] development of cancer. And I'll give you a good example,
[23] dioxin acutely is extremely non-toxic - or it's not
[24] extremely, it's non-toxic in some instances, but it's a very
[25] potent carcinogen. So, because something is acutely toxic

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[1] does not necessarily mean that it's a potent carcinogen. In
[2] fact, cyanide is not a known carcinogen, but it can cause
[3] death immediately. So, there's really no relationship
[4] between acute toxicity and development of tumors or
[5] characterization of a compound as a carcinogen. But I will
[6] agree that this table shows that you need a lower dose of
[7] 1260 to kill 50 percent of the animals.
[8] **THE COURT:** Within 24 hours?
[9] **THE WITNESS:** Within 24 hours. And I would also
[10] note here that if you look at these Aroclors there's no
[11] general trend anywhere within this table with regard to the
[12] toxicity of these chemicals, that is there is not an increase
[13] in acute toxicity as you add more higher chlorines to the
[14] mixture. So, we wouldn't use this information, quite
[15] frankly, in a risk assessment where we were estimating risk
[16] for long-term exposures.
[17] **BY MR. MATTIONI:**
[18] **Q:** Dr. DeGrandchamp, you are familiar with the document
[19] published by the National Center for Environmental
[20] Assessment, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, entitled,
[21] "PCBs Cancer Dose Response Assessment" -
[22] **A:** Yes.
[23] **Q:** - "An Application to Environmental Mixtures," September,
[24] 1996?
[25] **A:** Yes.

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[1] Q: As a matter of fact, is that something you referred to?
[2] A: Yes.
[3] Q: Let me take you to take a look at some pages from that
[4] document.
[5] (Pause.)
[6] Q: Dr. DeGrandchamp, I think you've said in your testimony
[7] that the higher the chlorine percent by weight the more toxic
[8] the mixture, right?
[9] A: Generally, with a few exceptions, and this pertains to
[10] that exception, yes.
[11] Q: Well, then I'll refer you to the bottom of Page 39 of the
[12] exhibit, Defendants' Exhibit 1108. Would you read for the
[13] Court that - beginning with the word, "Chlorine content"?
[14] A: Yes. "Chlorine content was formerly regarded by some
[15] scientists as correlated with cancer risk. Recently,
[16] however, Aroclor 1254 was found to be more potent than 1260,
[17] which is only slightly more potent than 1242, the Brunner
[18] study. This casts doubt on chlorine content being a useful
[19] indicator of cancer potency in this range of chlorine
[20] content. Both the number and position of chlorines are
[21] important."
[22] Q: Could you read the rest of it, please?
[23] A: Yes. "It is instructed to compare how the Aroclors rank
[24] by other measures with respect to resistance to metabolism,
[25] persistence in the body. There is an association with

[1] dioxin-like congeners the Schwartz publication, was that it?
[2] A: Yes.
[3] Q: And that was in 1996, you're saying, according to the
[4] exhibits -
[5] A: Yes.
[6] Q: - that you had?
[7] A: No, Schwartz, I believe, was 1993.
[8] Q: Oh, okay. 1996 was your Exhibit 719, I guess. Do you
[9] have that still there?
[10] A: I'm sorry, what exhibit was that?
[11] Q: 719, Government's Exhibit 719.
[12] A: Yes, this is from the Schwartz - excuse me, is this the
[13] exhibit you're referring to? No, I think we're looking at
[14] the...
[15] Q: I'm looking at 719, which says, "Source TEF derived from
[16] U.S. EPA, PCBs Cancer-Dose Response Assessment," September,
[17] 1996?
[18] A: Yes, yes.
[19] Q: Hasn't there been further development by EPA in which
[20] they have accepted as recently as either 2000 or 2001 the
[21] World Health Organization's determination of TEF, the toxic
[22] effects - toxic equivalent factors?
[23] A: In general, I believe with one exception, they have.
[24] However, if I can qualify? EPA is currently reevaluating the
[25] toxicity of dioxin, the reassessment report is expected out

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[1] chlorine content which partially explains the greater
[2] experimental potency of commercial mixture with higher
[3] chlorine content."
[4] Q: Read on, please.
[5] A: "With respect to dioxin toxic equivalents, however,
[6] several studies have ranked 1254, 1248 and 1242 as more
[7] potent than 1260."
[8] Q: You can skip the references -
[9] THE COURT: Well, read the rest of it, please.
[10] BY MR. MATTIONI:
[11] Q: - but read the rest of it.
[12] THE COURT: "The combined..."
[13] THE WITNESS: "The combined effect is difficult to
[14] predict as Aroclor 1260 mixtures with higher chlorine content
[15] have lower dioxin TEQs but persist longer in the environment
[16] and in the body."
[17] BY MR. MATTIONI:
[18] Q: Now, you've explained something about PCBs and PCB
[19] congeners, and you've referred to at least in the context of
[20] cancer potential that the higher the chlorine percent the
[21] more likely you're going to have the dioxin-like congeners?
[22] A: Well, I used the shorthand: The more of those dioxin-
[23] like PCB congeners in the mixture, because they have a higher
[24] chlorine content, they're going to have greater potency.
[25] Q: Now, I notice that you use as a reference for your

[1] some time this fall, in which I have been told by EPA
[2] personnel involved in the reassessment not only will dioxin
[3] be considered more toxic, but some of these toxicity
[4] equivalency factors will be changed. So, my conclusion is,
[5] my answer to you is this is in flux.
[6] Q: In the latest version of the draft final document that
[7] you're talking about did EPA not reduce the number of toxic
[8] congeners to 12 rather than 13 or 14?
[9] A: Yes.
[10] Q: And at the same time, when they did that they determined
[11] that the TEF, the toxic equivalency factor, for two of the
[12] congeners was in effect dropped and reduced to zero?
[13] A: Yes.
[14] Q: And a couple of others were also reduced at the same
[15] time?
[16] A: Yes.
[17] Q: So, what you're saying is that at the moment you don't
[18] know what's going to happen, so you don't know which TEFs are
[19] going to apply to what congeners?
[20] THE COURT: Well, were they reduced to the level of
[21] non-toxicity? That's what I want to know.
[22] MR. MATTIONI: Well, two of them were.
[23] THE COURT: Well, let me ask.
[24] MR. MATTIONI: I think he answered that two of them
[25] were, your Honor, he agreed with me.

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[1] **THE COURT:** And what were they, do you know?
[2] **THE WITNESS:** I don't recall precisely which ones
[3] were dropped. But if I can just elaborate on this table,
[4] just to make a point. As you can see from this table, even
[5] when this was prepared in 1996, some of these PCB congeners
[6] - I didn't want to indicate that all of them have a
[7] significant toxicity - the last two, for example, have a
[8] toxicity of 1.5, which is less than the total Aroclor
[9] mixture. So, yes, the science is in flux. I don't know what
[10] significance it would have in terms of the risk estimate, but
[11] typically, speaking from my experience, when things change
[12] slightly it doesn't have a significant difference on the risk
[13] assessment, but I can't say that for certain without
[14] conducting that.

[15] **BY MR. MATTIONI:**

[16] **Q:** Well, let me ask you, Dr. DeGrandchamp, when you make a
[17] statement like that, the TEF is not a standard itself,
[18] correct? The TEF is a factor that has no - I mean, it's not
[19] milligrams per kilogram or something like that?

[20] **A:** Correct.

[21] **Q:** It's a number that is used to take a congener, and in
[22] essence you take the TEF and you're going to multiply it by
[23] something to get the equivalent of this TCDD, and of course,
[24] since you're doing it for each individual congener, isn't it
[25] true that the individual numbers once you've done the

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[1] mathematics are what count?

[2] **A:** Yes, that gives you an equivalent weight of dioxin-like
[3] effects, yes.

[4] **Q:** But it's not until you do that conversion that you know
[5] what - for example, if you took a sample, you analyzed using
[6] the congener analysis, and you wanted to know what's the -
[7] what's the term you use for when you do that mathematics,
[8] what do you get at the end?

[9] **A:** A TEQ.

[10] **Q:** That's the toxic equivalent and that is stated in some-

[11] **A:** Yes.

[12] **Q:** - parts per billion, parts per trillion, whatever it
[13] might be?

[14] **A:** Yes.

[15] **Q:** And of course one would expect then to see, once you've
[16] done the TEQ mathematics, to see for each one relatively
[17] smaller numbers than a number that translates into the whole,
[18] if you follow what I'm asking?

[19] **A:** Yeah, it depends on what TEFs change. I can give you an
[20] example, I just completed a risk assessment two weeks ago and
[21] I had to use the WHO values, the World Health Organization
[22] values of the TEFs, and EPA's, and it came out as a wash,
[23] there was no difference in the estimated risk for this
[24] particular site. So, in some instances I would agree that if
[25] the TE - for example, if the TEF changed for PCB-126,

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[1] certainly that would have a significant impact on the
[2] overall risk assessment, but it depends on the site and the
[3] relative proportion of these PCB dioxin-like congeners in the
[4] sample. Keep in mind, I only showed you the PCB dioxin-like
[5] congeners and not dioxins themselves, which I didn't include
[6] on this table, but we've detected dioxins. So, included in
[7] your TEQ value would be the dioxins and furans, which would
[8] add to this overall TEQ that you mentioned.

[9] **Q:** Okay. But not all of dioxins are alike either, isn't
[10] that correct?

[11] **A:** Correct, they have congeners -

[12] **Q:** You've got the TCDDs -

[13] **MR. MATTIONI:** - and, your Honor, because I
[14] couldn't possibly pronounce what that stands for, I'm going
[15] to use the acronym, but that's -

[16] **THE COURT:** I'll accept that, Mr. Mattioni.

[17] **MR. MATTIONI:** I'm having trouble getting words out,
[18] let alone those kind of words.

[19] **BY MR. MATTIONI:**

[20] **Q:** But the TCDDs, that's the - sort of the - that's the
[21] one that has a TEF of 1?

[22] **A:** Yes, correct.

[23] **Q:** And when you look at those congeners for the dioxins
[24] themselves, they have these TEFs just like the dioxin-like
[25] PCB congeners, I take it?

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[1] **A:** Yes, yes.

[2] **MR. MATTIONI:** You'll bear with me, your Honor, this
[3] is not easy stuff for me.

[4] (Pause.)

[5] **MR. MATTIONI:** If I may approach, your Honor?

[6] **BY MR. MATTIONI:**

[7] **Q:** Exhibit Defendants' 1109. Dr. DeGrandchamp, would you
[8] take a look not at the first page there, but the second page,
[9] which is - oh, I'm sorry.

[10] (Pause.)

[11] **Q:** There's a copy of an article published in the Journal of
[12] Analytical Toxicologist in May-June, 1981. Are you familiar
[13] with the Journal of Analytical Toxicology?

[14] **A:** Yes.

[15] **Q:** Is that an authoritative peer-reviewed publication?

[16] **A:** Yes.

[17] **Q:** Are you familiar with Mr. Safe, L. Safe or Dr. Safe?

[18] **A:** I'm familiar with Steven Safe's work, yes.

[19] **Q:** And have you seen a copy of this article previously on
[20] "Synthesis of the Octen (ph.) and Non" - I quit - it's a
[21] "Non-a-chlorobiphenyls (ph.) Isomers and Congeners"?

[22] **A:** Yes - have I seen it? No.

[23] **Q:** Would you take a moment to read the portions of that
[24] document which refer you to the congener analysis of Aroclor
[25] 1268?

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[1] A: I'm sorry, where would that be?
[2] Q: Well, on the front you'll see there's a table which shows
[3] the -
[4] A: Oh, on this? Okay.
[5] Q: - 1268, 1262, 1260.
[6] A: Okay. And, I'm sorry, what did you want me to read?
[7] Q: Well, I'd like you to satisfy yourself that in fact
[8] that's a copy of a table showing the author's determination
[9] of the congener - congener analysis of Aroclor 1268.
[10] A: The top is cut off, I can't - but I presume this is the
[11] Aroclor that you're referring to - these are Aroclors 1268
[12] and others, yes.
[13] Q: By looking at that list with - I take it, on the left-
[14] hand side where it says, "Peak number" - is that still in
[15] your copy?
[16] A: Yes.
[17] Q: There's a list of numbers, it starts at 194 -
[18] A: Mm-hmm.
[19] Q: - down through 205, and I'm not sure whether that's all
[20] of them, but then 206 through 208 and then 209?
[21] A: Mm-hmm.
[22] Q: Can you tell by looking at those Aroclors which of those
[23] would be considered the dioxin-like Aroclors under the World
[24] Health Organization scheme?
[25] A: Can I tell by looking at them? No, not without comparing

[1] be more or less - which end of the spectrum for -
[2] A: More.
[3] Q: - dioxin-like characteristics?
[4] A: More.
[5] THE COURT: More what?
[6] THE WITNESS: More toxic, I'm sorry.
[7] BY MR. MATTIONI:
[8] Q: And that's because there is 12 chlorines that can be held
[9] on the benzene rings that make up the biphenyl portion of it?
[10] A: No, typically we're talking about the pentas-hexas (ph.)
[11] in that group, there's a stearic configuration associated
[12] with, as you were mentioning, the position of the chlorines,
[13] the non-ortho, but they have to be coplanar. None of these
[14] listed here are dioxin-like PCB congeners, if -
[15] Q: Because they're not -
[16] A: - if that's the import of your question - I'm sorry.
[17] Q: Because they're not coplanar?
[18] A: Well, if they don't have dioxin-like PCB congener
[19] toxicity, so...
[20] Q: But -
[21] A: There may be a variety of reasons, chlorination, the
[22] degree of chlorination is only one aspect.
[23] Q: Have you any other what you would consider better or more
[24] accurate publications than the one by Safe on the Aroclor
[25] makeup of - I mean the congener makeup of Aroclor 1268 that

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[1] to the actual Aroclor numbers.
[2] Q: You mean the copy of the World Health Organization
[3] scheme?
[4] A: Correct, but you can look at - I can compare them to
[5] what we have here, which would be similar to - I don't know
[6] if we can use this as a proxy list here, but typically the
[7] octo-chlorobiphenyls do not fall in the category of dioxin-
[8] like PCBs.
[9] Q: So, even if you just take the exhibit that you have
[10] prepared which shows a slightly different list of the
[11] congeners that you considered as dioxin-like, they're not
[12] found on this analysis of Aroclor 1268?
[13] A: I don't see any of them, no.
[14] Q: Have you done enough research into Aroclor 1268 to
[15] understand why that could be?
[16] A: I don't understand the question. This is -
[17] THE COURT: I don't think this witness can answer
[18] for Dr. Safe.
[19] MR. MATTIONI: Well, I didn't mean to answer for Dr.
[20] Safe, your Honor, but -
[21] THE COURT: And, therefore, I won't permit him to
[22] try. Dr. Safe can speak for himself, if he chooses to.
[23] MR. MATTIONI: If your Honor please - never mind.
[24] BY MR. MATTIONI:
[25] Q: Are the non-ortho and mono-ortho congeners considered to

[1] you would rely on?
[2] A: I don't understand your question. I haven't read this
[3] paper, but the title is, "Synthesis of Octen Non-a-
[4] Chlorobiphenol Isomers and Congeners," those are not dioxin-
[5] like PCB congeners.
[6] Q: I take it you've never done your own experiment or
[7] analysis, congener analysis of Aroclor 1268?
[8] A: Correct, I'm not a chemist.
[9] Q: Aroclor 1268, do you know what its normal condition or
[10] how it would be when it was manufactured?
[11] A: No.
[12] Q: Dr. DeGrandchamp, do you know whether or not EPA has set
[13] any kind of an action level or equivalent for dioxins and
[14] dioxin-like congeners? In other words, you've talked about
[15] taking samples, having them analyzed, if a sample comes out
[16] to - after you do all the mathematics and all the
[17] conversions, if the bottom line adds up to a certain number,
[18] do you know what number it would have to exceed in order to
[19] be considered as kind of like these different numbers,
[20] standards you've used in your testimony?
[21] A: Well, all risk assessors cut to the chase when we get
[22] data sets and we usually - it's got to be right there in
[23] your right-hand top drawer, you pull out a PRG table and the
[24] PRG table represents a de minimus risk level under typical or
[25] default conditions. So, we have a concentration that

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[1] corresponds to a de minimus risk level as defined by EPA as
[2] one times ten to the minus six. The level developed by EPA
[3] Region 9, yes, I do know that value.
[4] Q: Well, but in terms of how you would translate that one
[5] times ten to the minus six to an actual number?
[6] A: Yes.
[7] Q: And am I not correct that the number generally accepted
[8] in Region 3 is one part per billion?
[9] A: I don't know anything about Region 3, that's a risk
[10] management issue, I don't - I can tell you what the PRG is
[11] that's been calculated. The concentration corresponds to a
[12] de minimus risk level. So, typically, if you go out to a
[13] site and you detect a concentration below the total TEQ for
[14] dioxin, which is 22 parts per trillion, if you collect a
[15] sample that's below that concentration, it's a simple - you
[16] know, simple exercise, you just walk away from the site, it
[17] poses insignificant or de minimus risk levels.
[18] If I can just continue on with ATSDR, Agency -
[19] MR. MATTIONI: Your Honor, I'm not - I don't
[20] understand what we're doing at this point.
[21] THE WITNESS: Okay.
[22] BY MR. MATTIONI:
[23] Q: Now, with respect to the samples that you obtained -
[24] were obtained I guess it was at your request, the samples in
[25] June of 2002?

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[1] A: I think they had a dual purpose. I can't speak for Ms.
[2] Dietz, but I wanted confirmation before I went out on a limb
[3] and I wanted some confirmation that those chemicals truly
[4] could be - were detected at the site, at the site, but I
[5] think that Dr. Medine also needed those chemicals to conduct
[6] his background analysis.
[7] Q: Now, in that sample round, the samples taken along the
[8] shoreline, they were analyzed both for Aroclors and
[9] congeners, is that correct?
[10] A: Aroclors - yes.
[11] Q: The PCB analysis?
[12] A: Yes, yes, yes.
[13] Q: They were also analyzed for dioxins?
[14] A: Correct.
[15] Q: Did you do the mathematics and calculate out the numbers,
[16] the TEQs?
[17] A: The TEQs were reported, I didn't need to calculate those.
[18] Q: You didn't add them up?
[19] A: Well, they were added up for me. The analytical
[20] laboratory presented the data in total TEQs.
[21] (Pause.)
[22] Q: I've handed you Defendants' Exhibit 1111. Dr.
[23] DeGrandchamp, could you please review that and see if you can
[24] tell us whether or not that's an accurate listing of the
[25] World Health Organization's dioxins and dioxin-like

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[1] congeners?
[2] A: Well, of course I can't be certain without getting - I
[3] don't - if you could tell me where this document was - the
[4] origin of this document, I don't know, I don't have them
[5] memorized, no.
[6] Q: It's from the draft - EPA's draft final - I don't have
[7] the name of it - I just gave you the name before and I
[8] forgot, but it's the one that - published recently, in 2000
[9] or 2001, that we just discussed a few minutes ago?
[10] A: Oh, the dioxin reassessment.
[11] Q: Yes, the dioxin reassessment, that's the one.
[12] MR. SITHER: Objection, I don't think this was -
[13] this says, "Draft."
[14] THE COURT: It says, "Draft, do not cite or quote."
[15] (Laughter.)
[16] MR. MATTIONI: I know what it says, your Honor, but
[17] it also -
[18] THE COURT: So it's not official, it's not -
[19] MR. MATTIONI: This witness has testified in part
[20] based on the same document, your Honor.
[21] THE COURT: I don't think he's rendered an opinion
[22] based upon this in the case in chief. I think he answered a
[23] couple of your questions, which were beyond the scope of
[24] direct, to the effect that there are expected to be some
[25] changes in the levels of toxicity of certain PCBs.

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[1] So, you can ask him a hypothetical -
[2] MR. MATTIONI: Let me work my -
[3] THE COURT: - using the document, you can ask him a
[4] hypothetical, but you'll have to establish of course through
[5] some evidence that the assumed facts are in fact facts.
[6] MR. MATTIONI: Understood, your Honor.
[7] (Pause.)
[8] BY MR. MATTIONI:
[9] Q: Dr. DeGrandchamp, assuming then Exhibit 1111 accurately
[10] reflects the World Health Organization's reassessment of the
[11] dioxin-like congeners and dioxins and their TEFs, would you
[12] - and assuming that Exhibit D-1111 is authoritative in
[13] setting those TEFs for the dioxins and dioxin-like congeners
[14] for PCBs, would you please take a look at Exhibit 1110? And
[15] the first question, just for accuracy purposes, do we
[16] accurately set forth - in other words, repeat and replicate
[17] the same congeners as I have on D-1111? Not the values, just
[18] the congeners.
[19] A: You want me to make a comparison?
[20] Q: I just wanted to make sure that you're satisfied that
[21] we've at least copied them correctly and followed the same
[22] set of numbers. We've reversed the order, we have PCBs at
[23] the top instead of the bottom.
[24] A: Well, and also you reversed all the numbers, so it would
[25] take - give me a second.

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[1] (Pause.)
[2] A: Well, I'm going to assume that you have.
[3] Q: Now, you've said, I think, that your report, laboratory
[4] reports added up the TEQs, so that you have the - you know,
[5] whatever the dioxin equivalencies were?
[6] A: Mm-hmm.
[7] Q: Assuming, Dr. DeGrandchamp, for Sediment Sample 11, which
[8] I think is the fourth column over from the left, assuming
[9] that those are - those correctly reported the multiplication
[10] involved in taking the results and translating them into the
[11] TEQs, can you tell us whether or not some of the TEQs for Set
[12] 11 for both PCB dioxin-like congeners based on the World
[13] Health Organization's scheme and the dioxins, which equal
[14] 46.32, would exceed one part per billion for dioxin TEQs?
[15] A: I don't understand your question.
[16] Q: Well -
[17] A: I don't understand what one part per billion is.
[18] Q: All right. Well, let's leave the one part billion off
[19] the - will you -
[20] THE COURT: Just a minute. Now, your proposed
[21] Exhibit 110 is what?
[22] MR. MATTIONI: 1110 Exhibit, your Honor, is the
[23] results from the June, 2002 congener analysis.
[24] THE COURT: Okay. Prepared by whom?
[25] MR. MATTIONI: This was prepared by Edward W.

[1] about these.
[2] MR. MATTIONI: That's fine, your Honor.
[3] May I have just a moment, please?
[4] THE COURT: Certainly.
[5] (Pause.)
[6] MR. MATTIONI: I have nothing further, your Honor.
[7] THE COURT: Is there any redirect from the
[8] Government?
[9] MR. SITHER: Briefly, your Honor.
[10] REDIRECT EXAMINATION
[11] BY MR. SITHER:
[12] Q: Dr. DeGrandchamp, you testified in response to Mr.
[13] Mattioni's questions that you are not a risk manager, can you
[14] explain to the Court the difference between risk management
[15] and risk assessment?
[16] A: Yes. Briefly, a risk assessor evaluates the scientific
[17] probability that harm will occur, it's associated with
[18] exposure, it's a scientific exercise. A risk manager, on the
[19] other hand, has to consider a variety of factors, which is
[20] actually more complex than my job, and they have to evaluate
[21] the feasibility of implementing remediation, if necessary,
[22] the cost of remediation, there's a cost-benefit analysis that
[23] I don't have to conduct. So, all I can say at the end of my
[24] report is whether or not I think risk exists from a
[25] scientific standpoint, but I certainly can't presume to make

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[1] Kleppinger, PhD, who is going to be one of our experts to
[2] testify.
[3] THE COURT: And from where did he get the data?
[4] MR. MATTIONI: The data came from plaintiff's
[5] report, trip report, which included a set of results from
[6] their 2002 inspection and sampling, that's the one they did
[7] that we didn't know about, and they - these are their
[8] analytical results -
[9] THE COURT: And -
[10] MR. MATTIONI: - which are translated into TEQs.
[11] THE COURT: And these are translations by Dr.
[12] Kleppinger?
[13] MR. MATTIONI: That's correct.
[14] THE COURT: And he is using what TEF?
[15] MR. MATTIONI: He's using the World Health
[16] Organization's scheme for TEFs, that's what's in -
[17] THE COURT: And does the DEA TEF differ, do you
[18] know? Well, do you know?
[19] THE WITNESS: These numbers are - I don't think are
[20] the numbers that we saw in the trip report, so they differ.
[21] I don't recognize these total TEQs, so it appears that - it
[22] appears - again, I don't have a comparison here - that
[23] these are not the same TEQs, but I don't know how they were
[24] derived.
[25] THE COURT: So this witness can't really testify

[1] a risk management decision.
[2] Q: Okay. And what kinds of decisions do risk managers make?
[3] THE COURT: That's - we've gone enough on that.
[4] Anything from the third-party defendants?
[5] MR. MARTIN: Your Honor, I just have a couple
[6] questions.
[7] THE COURT: You may.
[8] CROSS-EXAMINATION
[9] BY MR. MARTIN:
[10] Q: Dr. DeGrandchamp, in the report that you prepared on
[11] August 1st, 2001, at Page 4, you make the statement that
[12] "recent sampling conducted by EPA Region 3 revealed that
[13] dioxin and furan levels are still elevated in Metal Bank
[14] sediments," is that statement based on your review of the
[15] June, 2002 data?
[16] A: I believe so.
[17] Q: And prior to that sentence which I just read from your
[18] report you also made the statement that "high levels of
[19] dioxins and furans which are frequently produced during metal
[20] salvaging operations were detected over a decade ago in Metal
[21] Bank's soils and corbicula, clam, by the Philadelphia Academy
[22] of Natural Sciences," do you recall that sentence from your
[23] report?
[24] A: It sounds correct.
[25] Q: What was the basis for your determination or your

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[1] opinion, if you still have one, regarding dioxins and furans
[2] being frequently produced during metal salvaging operations?
[3] **MR. MATTIONI:** Objection, your Honor.
[4] **THE COURT:** Overruled.
[5] **THE WITNESS:** Well, the detection of dioxins and
[6] furans is at the core of the background document I'm
[7] developing for the Navy, so I was particularly keen on
[8] whether or not those compounds were there at background
[9] levels or whether I should have suggested further samples be
[10] collected for those analytes that were missing from the data
[11] set. I had read in the RI report that these so-called
[12] Sputniks, and through conversation with EPA, it sounded like
[13] some combustion was occurring at the site, which triggered in
[14] my mind as, again, just a scientist that dioxins and furans
[15] were being produced either through burning of PCBs or PCB-
[16] contaminated materials, but that was a presumption I was
[17] making. So, it was just based simply on my cursory
[18] observation as I went through the documents.
[19] **MR. MATTIONI:** I move to strike the presumption,
[20] your Honor, since it's not based on any evidence in the
[21] record.
[22] **THE COURT:** Overruled.
[23] **BY MR. MARTIN:**
[24] **Q:** Dr. DeGrandchamp, I take it from your testimony that the
[25] risk assessment reports that you have reviewed related to the

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[1] Cottman site all underestimate the level of risk to human
[2] health, is that correct?
[3] **A:** That's correct.
[4] **Q:** Do you have - in any quantitative sense, are you able to
[5] give us an opinion about the quantitative extent to which,
[6] say one time, ten times, a hundred times, these reports
[7] underestimate the risk?
[8] **MR. MATTIONI:** Objection.
[9] **THE COURT:** Overruled. Either you have an opinion
[10] or you do not.
[11] **THE WITNESS:** I have a visceral feeling, but no firm
[12] quantifiable number I can offer, no.
[13] **BY MR. MARTIN:**
[14] **Q:** Can you give us, if you cannot give us a quantitative
[15] opinion, a qualitative sense concerning the extent to which
[16] in your experience and expertise in the risk assessment
[17] field, and given your review of the data that you have seen,
[18] particularly the June, 2002 sampling data, the risks have
[19] been underestimated?
[20] **THE COURT:** Is this not repetitive of testimony
[21] already elicited on direct?
[22] **MR. MARTIN:** Your Honor, I don't feel that he's
[23] given us a sense to which there has been - the extent to
[24] which there has been an underestimate of the risk. I think
[25] he has said in the absolute terms he believes there's an

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[1] underestimate, but I don't believe that he has previously
[2] testified about the magnitude of any underestimation.
[3] **THE COURT:** He's just said he can't give you the
[4] magnitude of underestimation.
[5] **MR. MARTIN:** In the quantitative sense, but risk
[6] assessors typically speak as well in qualitative terms as
[7] well when they can't offer quantitative opinions.
[8] **THE COURT:** Low, high medium, high-low?
[9] **MR. MARTIN:** That's exactly what I had in mind, your
[10] Honor.
[11] **THE COURT:** I don't think that's necessary.
[12] **MR. MARTIN:** Okay. No further questions then.
[13] **RE CROSS-EXAMINATION**
[14] **BY MR. MATTIONI:**
[15] **Q:** You mentioned in one of your answers, background?
[16] **A:** Yes.
[17] **Q:** And that's something a risk assessor is supposed to
[18] consider and take into account, is he not?
[19] **A:** Yes. Can I qualify that?
[20] **Q:** You have, in fact -
[21] **THE COURT:** Just a minute. What do you mean by
[22] background and you may qualify that.
[23] **THE WITNESS:** Thank you, there are two types of
[24] background -
[25] **MR. MATTIONI:** I was going to get there, but that's

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[1] all right.
[2] **THE COURT:** That's all right.
[3] **MR. MATTIONI:** You're faster than me, your Honor.
[4] **THE COURT:** I confess, sometimes I'm impatient. But
[5] sometimes I earn impatience. (Laughter.) Proceed.
[6] **THE WITNESS:** Thank you, your Honor. There's two
[7] types of background. It's clear from CERCLA and risk
[8] assessment guidance that EPA has developed that if chemicals
[9] that are naturally occurring and have not been disturbed
[10] through site operations are there at naturally occurring
[11] levels. That's background. And CERCLA goes on to say the
[12] President shall not authorize funds to remediate those.
[13] When it comes to organic chemicals, which are termed
[14] anthrabogenic (ph) background levels, there's a higher
[15] threshold for showing that you, yourself have not contributed
[16] to the overall regional background levels that the facility
[17] is operating in. To point out a hypothetical, if those
[18] Sputniks were releasing dioxins around the facility, that
[19] would be adding to the burden - the background burden that
[20] we call anthrabogenic background around the facility. So, at
[21] this particular facility, I don't know that background can be
[22] distinguished without congener analysis because we have
[23] developed very sophisticated statistical tools now where we
[24] can take the ratios that these exist on site and actually
[25] fingerprint them like you would fingerprint an individual and

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[1] go out and around the community and see if the same
[2] fingerprint exists around the facility.
[3] So, yes, you're supposed to determine background,
[4] but it has no bearing on the risk assessment. If the
[5] chemicals are there from a scientific standpoint, people are
[6] going to be exposed to them. And if that happens, then there
[7] are risk. So, no, it is not a risk assessor's job to make
[8] risk management decisions about background and whether or not
[9] a site poses a risk. But yes, you're supposed to define
[10] background and whether or not you've added to the burden of
[11] the regional background levels.

BY MR. MATTIONI:

[12]
[13] Q: You've written extensively for the United States Navy on
[14] this very issue, have you not?

[15] A: I have.

[16] Q: As a matter of fact, you've even opined that it's
[17] important to determine what's in anthrabenogenic fill so that
[18] the Navy shouldn't be required to pay for extra cleanup,
[19] haven't you?

[20] A: Anthrabenogenic fill that was historical. If I can give
[21] you an example, most of the Navy installations in the State
[22] of California in the bay area, were built around the turn of
[23] the century or at least, that's where the sediments have come
[24] from. Back when the earthquake occurred and there was a huge
[25] fire, the California fire following the earthquake, we had

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[1] huge amounts of lead-base paint released into the - or lead
[2] released in the air through the burning process. And also
[3] after those homes burned, there were a lot of PAHs that found
[4] themselves in the sediments. Well, in building up those
[5] bases, you, of course, have those heavy metals that you are
[6] making the base out of and no one thought enough at the time
[7] to take a sample historically so you could sit there and say
[8] this is what we started with. And this is what we added to
[9] this site. But that was the thrust of the document I
[10] prepared for the Navy. And I developed a geochemical
[11] approach where we could use the molecular structure of the
[12] underlying mineral content of that fill to parse the
[13] background component from what the Navy has added to the
[14] site. Q Dr. DeGrandchamp, are you familiar with the
[15] document entitled "Procedural Guidance for Statistically
[16] Analyzing Environmental Background Data"?

[17] THE COURT: Just a minute.

[18] MR. SITHER: Objection, your Honor.

[19] THE COURT: I think we are beyond the scope of the
[20] direct and the cross and the examination by Mr. Martin.

[21] MR. MATTIONI: If your Honor pleases, this goes
[22] directly to the witness' answer to this last question.

[23] THE COURT: I know, but asking about background
[24] appears to be beyond the scope. Are we - we're going into a
[25] new subject that was not covered in your cross. And the

[1] witness has said that - he's given his testimony about
[2] background.

[3] MR. MATTIONI: If your Honor please, I have one
[4] piece -

[5] THE COURT: Anything more seems to be not helpful.

[6] MR. MATTIONI: - that I think is important at this
[7] point.

[8] THE COURT: Well, ask it and I'll see if it's
[9] important.

[10] MR. MATTIONI: Dr. DeGrandchamp, in this document
[11] which you were acknowledged as a significant contributor, on
[12] page 10, characterizing background conditions is an integral
[13] part of the baseline human health and ecological risk
[14] assessments. These are conducted as part of the RI to ensure
[15] that remedy selection is protective of human health and the
[16] environment which is one of the two threshold criteria in the
[17] NCP. That's correct, is it not, that background is supposed
[18] to be an integral part of the remedial investigation?

[19] MR. SITHER: Objection.

[20] THE COURT: Sustained.

[21] MR. MATTIONI: I have nothing further.

[22] THE COURT: You may step down, sir.

[23] THE WITNESS: Thank you.

[24] (Witness excused.)

[25] THE COURT: Today we are going no later than quarter

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[1] of 7:00. But we don't have to go that far, if you can be
[2] quicker with your witnesses.

[3] MR. MATTIONI: I was going to ask you if we can end
[4] before then, your Honor, if the witness finishes before then.

[5] THE COURT: Right.

[6] MR. MATTIONI: I'll thank you, but my wife will
[7] thank you, too. Believe it or not, she wants me to come
[8] home.

[9] MR. WILLIAMS: The United States calls Officer Erin
[10] Czech.

[11] THE COURT: Right up here, please, Officer.

[12] OFFICER ERIN CZECH, Government Witness, Sworn.

[13] THE CLERK: Please state your name and spell your
[14] name for the record.

[15] THE WITNESS: Erin Czech, C-Z-E-C-H.

DIRECT EXAMINATION

BY MR. WILLIAMS:

[18] Q: Please state your name and spell your last name?

[19] A: Erin Czech, C-Z-E-C-H.

[20] Q: With whom are you employed?

[21] A: The Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission.

[22] Q: How long have you been employed with them?

[23] A: Seven years.

[24] Q: What is your position with the PFBC?

[25] A: Water Ways Conservation Officer.